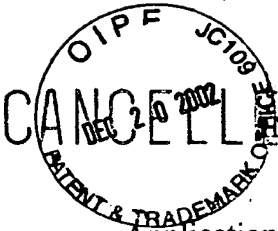


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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: Broome et al.

Serial No.: 09/723,003

Group Art Unit: 3731

Filed: November 27, 2000

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For: DISTAL PROTECTION DEVICE
AND METHOD

Attorney Docket
No.: 10177-108-999

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 AND 1.97

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

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Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure provisions of 37 C.F.R. §1.56, applicant hereby provides the attached reference which the Examiner may consider material to the examination of the subject U.S. patent application. It is requested that the Examiner make this information of record if it is deemed material to the examination of the application.

This is a Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement. This Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. §1.97(f) supplements the Information Disclosure Statement filed on April 10, 2002.

Enclosures accompanying this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement are:

(i) PTO 1449, listing Reference DF; and (ii) copy of Reference DF.

No admission is made that the information cited in this Statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability nor a representation that a search has been made (other than a search report of a foreign counterpart application or PCT International Search Report if submitted herewith). 37 C.F.R. §§1.97(g) and (h).

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any fee required or credit any overpayment for this Supplemental Information Disclosure Statement and/or Petition to Pennie & Edmonds LLP Deposit Account No. 16-1150.

Respectfully submitted,

Thomas E. Friebe
by E. C. Star (Reg No. 51,163)

Date: December 18, 2002

29,258

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Enclosures